

# DrugFAQs

## Skelaxin

*Generic name: Metaxalone*

*Brand names: Skelaxin*

### Why is Skelaxin prescribed?

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Along with rest and physical therapy, Skelaxin is prescribed for the relief of painful musculoskeletal conditions. Researchers aren't sure how the drug works, but suspect that its effectiveness stems from its sedative properties.

### Most important fact about Skelaxin

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Skelaxin should be avoided by anyone with significant liver or kidney problems.

### How should you take Skelaxin?

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No special instructions apply. Take exactly as prescribed.

--*If you miss a dose...*Take the forgotten dose as soon as you remember.

However, if it is almost time for your next dose, skip the one you missed and return to your regular schedule. Do not take two doses at once.

--*Storage instructions...*Store at room temperature.

### What side effects may occur?

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Side effects cannot be anticipated. If any develop or change in intensity, tell your doctor as soon as possible. Only your doctor can determine if it is safe to continue using Skelaxin.

- *More common side effects may include:*

Dizziness, drowsiness, headache, irritability, nausea, nervousness, stomach upset, vomiting

### Why should Skelaxin not be prescribed?

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You'll need to avoid Skelaxin if it causes an allergic reaction. Do not take it if you have a tendency to anemia or a significant liver or kidney condition.

## Special warnings about Skelaxin

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If you have any problems with your liver, the doctor will monitor your liver function carefully. Safety and effectiveness in children 12 and under have not been established.

## Possible food and drug interactions when taking Skelaxin

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There is no information on potential interactions.

## Special information if you are pregnant or breastfeeding

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It's best to avoid using Skelaxin during pregnancy--particularly early pregnancy--unless the potential benefits clearly outweigh the possible risks. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, notify your doctor immediately. It is not known whether Skelaxin makes its way into breast milk. Breastfeeding while using the drug is not recommended.

## Recommended dosage

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### ADULTS

The usual dose for adults and children over 12 is 800 milligrams (2 tablets) 3 or 4 times a day.

## Overdosage

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There have been no reports of major Skelaxin overdose. However, any medication taken in excess can have serious consequences. If you suspect an overdose, seek medical attention immediately.

- *Possible symptoms of Skelaxin overdose may include:*  
Sedation, depressed breathing